



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF  
WATER AND  
WATERSHEDS

Memo to the File

From: Jill Nogi, NPDES Permit Writer

Personal Communication with William Hobbs, Ecology PCB Study: May 9, 2016

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I talked today with Will Hobbs, Washington Department of Ecology, about the 2014-2015 water quality sampling around the Wenatchee River Watershed that Ecology undertook as part of the Wenatchee River PCB and DDT Source Assessment Study that is planned for publication in July 2016. I mentioned the 2005 PCB study done by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)/Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery (LNFH) and the subsequent removal of the older painted raceways and replacement with fiberglass raceways. Will mentioned that due to PCBs in fish food, and the bioaccumulation of PCBs in fish tissue, as well as excretion in their feces, that the pollution abatement ponds at the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery are likely discharging some PCBs to Icicle Creek; but with the 2 year sampling study results to be published this summer, there is no obvious source of PCBs anywhere in Icicle Creek. Furthermore, he found that the big PCB problem area for the Wenatchee River is further downstream.

I will look for the July PCB analysis report to include in the Administrative Record for the Permit. We briefly discussed the potential for including a PCB monitoring requirement in the LNFH Permit and agreed that the data from the study do not warrant a PCB monitoring requirement in the Draft Permit. I will, however, include the BMP plan language about minimizing PCBs, and include the language about preferential purchasing of paint, caulk, etc.